



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



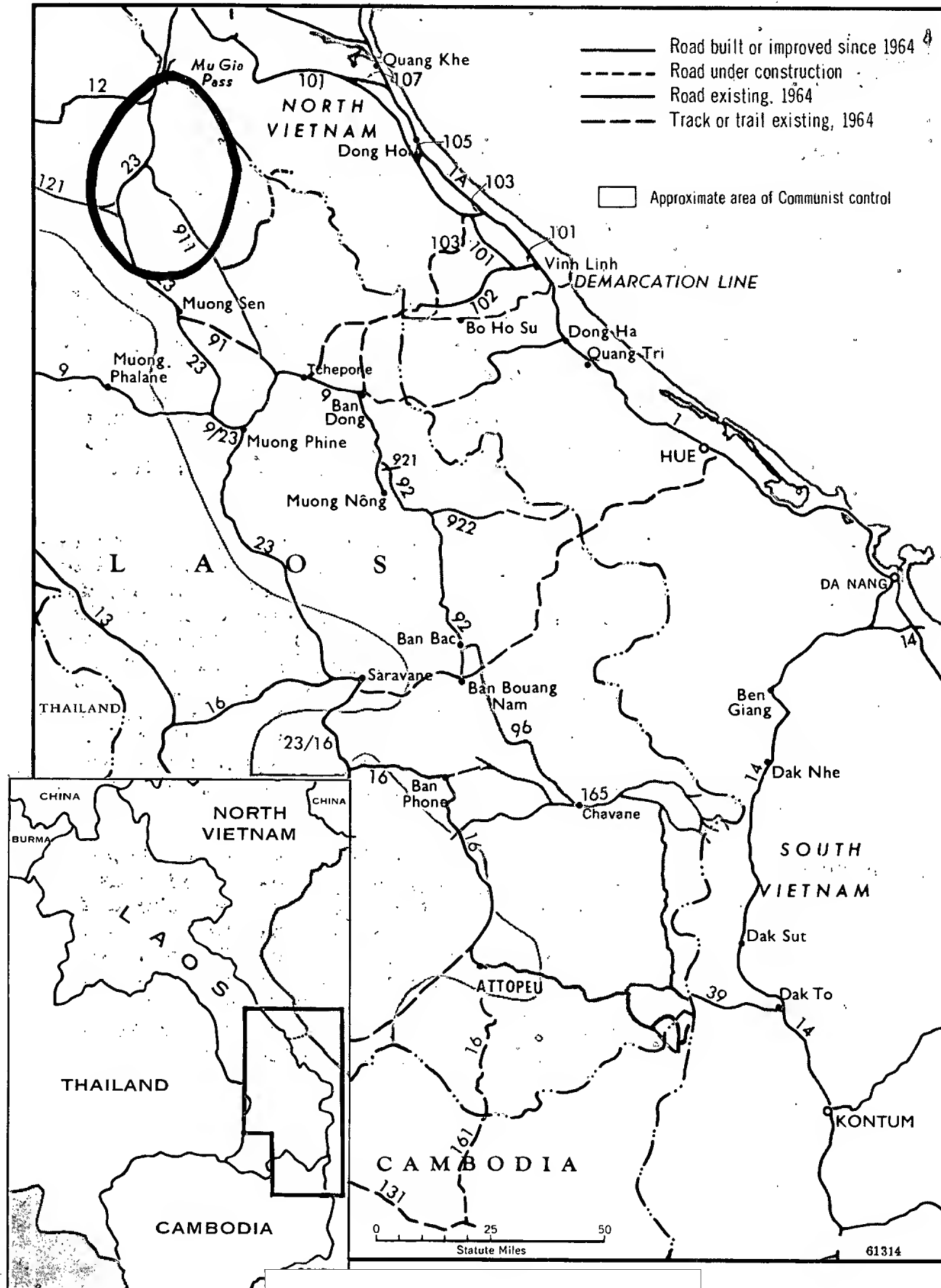
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3 MARCH 1966

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DAILY BRIEF
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1. South Vietnam

Saigon's new economic minister has told US officials that he is reluctant to initiate any dramatic moves that would endanger his position in the government. He is also unwilling to approve certain economic measures discussed at Honolulu even though it was made clear to him that both South Vietnam and the US had already reached agreement on them.

The minister says that he wants to proceed slowly so as not to arouse powerful business interests. The US mission strongly questions this approach because of the dangerous economic situation.

2. Laos

A large number of Communist trucks--perhaps as many as 400--were spotted over an eight-day period recently moving down the infiltration corridor south of the Mu Gia Pass. All of these trucks, except one convoy which carried supplies and towed artillery pieces, were loaded with enemy soldiers. It is not known whether these troops were heading for South Vietnam or being positioned for road repair work along the corridor. (Map)

3. Indonesia

Sukarno ordered the university in Djakarta temporarily closed today in his latest effort to overcome the defiance of anti-Communist students. Some non-Communist labor unions have agreed to join the student protest movement, and some kind of joint demonstration is likely. Typically, however, the military remains on the sidelines.

4. Ghana

The bizarre political gambit through which Nkrumah became the nominal head of state in Guinea is a psychological move with little real meaning. It does, however, give Nkrumah a secure base of operations in Guinea where his radical colleague, Sekou Touré, has apparently decided to go all out in support of Nkrumah's ambitions for a comeback. The present wildly anti-Nkrumah climate in Ghana, however, argues that Nkrumah's prospects are very dim.

The Ghana coup is further hardening the lines between the moderate and radical African states. Four delegations--representing Guinea, Mali, Tanzania, and Egypt--walked out of the Organization of African Unity meeting in Addis Ababa today. They explained that they could not sit in the same room with representatives of the new Ghanaian Government, whom they called "tools of imperialism."

5. Rhodesia

The oil embargo is crumbling. Significant amounts of oil are coming into Rhodesia from South Africa, and now it appears that much larger quantities may shortly come by sea and then through Portuguese Mozambique.

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6. Dominican Republic

Garcia Godoy seems not overly disturbed thus far by the reaction to last week's compromise solution to the impasse over the military chiefs. He implied to Ambassador Bunker that despite Bosch's public blast on Monday, the reaction was generally milder than might have been expected. He said he intends to take further actions designed to improve the climate for the 1 June elections.

This climate is likely to take a turn for the worse, however, if former rebel leader Francisco Caamano makes a sudden reappearance on the Dominican scene.

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7. Cuba

Occasional military cargoes are still arriving in Cuba from the Soviet Union.

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